

Message Text

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73

ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 IO-11

DLOS-04 SAL-01 OFA-01 OMB-01 /075 W

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R 272120Z JAN 76

FM AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6853

INFO AMEMBASSY LA PAZ

AMEMBASSY LIMA

C O N F I D E N T I A L SANTIAGO 0692

EO 11652: XGDS-1

TAGS: PFOR, BL, PE, CI

SUBJECT: CHILE-BOLIVIA-PERU RELATIONS: OUTLET TO SEA

REF: SANTIAGO 0442

1. FONMINISTRY OFFICIAL JORGE BERGUNO, CHIEF OF NEWLY FORMED DIRECTORATE OF SPECIAL AFFAIRS, TOLD EMBOFF JAN 26 THAT MINISTRY IS SOMEWHAT PERTURBED OVER PRESS CONFERENCE ON BOLIVIAN CORRIDOR GIVEN BY PERUVIAN AMBASSADOR (REFTEL) AND COMMENTS MADE BY THE AMBASSADOR TO FONMINISTRY ACTING UNDER SECY AT SAME TIME. IN CONTRAST TO VAGUENESS OF PRESS INTERVIEW, BERGUNO SAID THAT AMBASSADOR MARIATEGUI HAD TOLD UNDER SECY THAT PERU IN ESSENCE WAS NOT ABLE TO SAY YES TO CHILEAN PROPOSAL, BUT COULD NOT SAY NO. MARIATEGUI INDICATED THAT HIS GOVERNMENT WOULD PREFER TO STRETCH OUT NEGOTIATION FOR SOME TIME. HE EVEN MENTIONED POSSIBILITY OF TAKING THE MATTER TO ARBITRATION, POSSIBLY NAMING AS ARBITER THE PRESIDENT OF THE US, IN VIEW OF US ROLE IN 1929 TREATY.

2. BERGUNO SAID MINISTRY ALSO WAS PERPLEXED AT WAY GOP HAD HANDLED THIS APPROACH. PERUVIAN AMBASSADOR IN LA PAZ HAD SENT GOB A NOTE, AND MARIATEGUI HAD GIVEN CHILEAN UNDER SECY IMPRESSION HE WOULD FOLLOW UP HIS CONVERSATION WITH A
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NOTE. SUCH A NOTE HAS NOT BEEN RECEIVED.

3. ALTHOUGH HE OBVIOUSLY DID NOT LIKE THE IDEA OF ARBITRATION, BERGUNO SAID HE EXPECTED CHILEAN FONMINISTRY WOULD CONTINUE ON THE SAME BASIC COURSE: EXERT NO PRESSURE ON GOP, KEEP MATTERS IN LOW KEY, BE PATIENT, BUT CONTINUE WORKING ON THE CHILEAN PROPOSAL.HE THOUGHT THAT CHILEAN AND BOLIVIAN EXPERTS WOULD PROBABLY BE NAMED TO START PRELIMINARY WORK.
POPPER

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